

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 105

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Joseph Winfred Morgan.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Joseph Winfred Morgan; and

WHEREAS, he was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on October 23, 1928, in DeRidder, Louisiana, Mr. Morgan was the oldest son of Reverend Arthur T. Morgan and Nellie Tennessee Knight; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Morgan spent his youth in DeRidder and attended college at Louisiana State University, where he received a football scholarship; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, he was drafted into the National Football League as an offensive tackle for the San Francisco 49ers; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, Mr. Morgan left professional football and went to work at the Kansas City Southern Railroad in Beaumont, Texas, where he became involved in the labor movement, which led him to work for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity for forty years in the service of the Teamsters, standing as President of Local 390 and Local 769 in Miami, Florida, in which positions he earned the respect of his peers for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Morgan represented thousands of workers in a variety of industries, including truckers, dock workers, delivery drivers, freight operators, and airline employees; his unwavering dedication gained him election as the Area Director of the Southern Conference of Teamsters and as the Vice President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Morgan was the recipient of many awards for his charitable services with the Teamsters; his most prestigious was the Eleanor Roosevelt Award, given for his outstanding support and contribution to Israel; and

WHEREAS, he retired from the Union in 1990 and divided his time between his homes in Fort Lauderdale and Ormond Beach, Florida, while maintaining a strong connection to the mountains of East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, thirty-two years ago, Mr. Morgan passed through the Great Smoky Mountains while traveling; he instantly fell in love with the area and soon after bought a home in Gatlinburg; and

WHEREAS, for many years, he visited as often as he could, was an active participant in local elections, and kept abreast of current events by having the local paper delivered to his home in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Morgan was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is preceded in death by his younger brother, Arthur T. Morgan, Jr., his sister, Mary Sartin, and his son, Craig Morgan; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving wife of forty-five years, Carolyn Morgan; his children, Joleen Morgan, Joseph W. Morgan, Jr., Clay Morgan, Jeff Morgan, and Russ Morgan, Jr.; and his oldest sister, Gloria Buie; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Morgan leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Joseph Winfred Morgan, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Joseph Morgan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.